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HAWAII'S NAVY NEWS



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USS Lake Erie performs another rescue

Ens. Domenic Carlucci
USS Lake Erie

USS Lake Erie (CG 70) has a history of getting underway on very short notice to assist in rescues at sea. These past weeks offered the guided missile cruiser the opportunity to continue this tradition with a slight change.

The John C. Stennis Battlegroup was underway enroute to Arabian Gulf on the start of their six-month

deployment. USS Lake Erie was operating with the battlegroup for the westerly transit toward Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Early Nov. 13, the San Diego Coast Guard contacted the Stennis Battlegroup to inform them of a "MayDay" call due to a medical emergency.

The first call was soon followed with an injury update of a 25-year old Indonesian male who had suffered a head trauma, as well as contact in-

formation for the fishing vessel Fuyuko Maru.

When notified of the impending mission, the Fuyuko Maru was 650 miles to the southwest. The Stennis Battle group assigned Lake Erie to detach and provide emergency medical evacuation services.

On the Lake Erie, Japanese speaking crewmembers assisted in passing course information to the distressed vessel. With Lake Erie cruising

at approximately 30 knots and the Fuyuko Maru cruising at full speed on reciprocal course, rendezvous was predicted within 12 to 15 hours.

As Lake Erie started its approach, a helicopter from Detachment three of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL 49) flew off of USS Lake Champlain (CG 57). The helicopter brought along a flight surgeon, Lt. Sean Skelton, from Carrier Air Wing Nine aboard

Stennis, and Lake Erie duty corpsmen also assisted Dr. Skelton in victim stabilization.

At 8 a.m., Nov. 14, Lake Erie launched the embarked helicopter and deployed its small boat with medical personnel and a security team to ensure force protection concerns were met and assistance could be rendered promptly to the injured fisherman.

The rescue team quickly

▼ See RESCUE, A-2

Navy christens oceanographic research craft

NAVSEA Office of Congressional and Public Affairs

The Department of the Navy christened a new oceanographic research vessel named Kilo Moana in a ceremony Nov. 17, held in Jacksonville, Fla.

Hawaii's senior-Senator Daniel Inouye was the ceremony's principal speaker. His wife, Margaret Inouye will serve as ship's sponsor.

In the time-honored Navy tradition, Mrs. Inouye broke a bottle of champagne across the bow and formally named the ship Kilo Moana, which is Hawaiian for "Oceanographer".

Kilo Moana is designed to perform a broad spectrum of oceanographic research in coastal and deep ocean areas. Research ranges from physical, biological and chemical oceanography to environmental investigations, ocean surveys, engineering, marine acoustics, marine geology and geophysics.

As part of the nation's University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System, the ship will be capable of sampling and collection of air, surface, midwater, and sea floor parameters; full ocean depth sea floor sur-

▼ See RESEARCH A-2

Ehime Maru: laid to rest



PH2 (AW/NAC) Keith W. DeVinney photo

During a ceremony remembering the Ehime Maru Nov. 25, representatives from three of the crewmembers' families stood aboard the Japanese ship JDS Chihaya and threw flowers into the water to honor their loved ones. The four-month Ehime Maru recovery operation successfully concluded with the ship settling into its final resting site approximately 12 miles south of Barbers Point in more than 6,000 feet of water.



OS2 (SW) Brian Krause photo

Sailors, civilians, and family members of Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific lend a hand during Operation Aloha on the North Shore Thanksgiving Day.

Operation Aloha delivers for those in need

Lt. j.g. Damien Oliver
NCTAMS PAC

Thanksgiving Day opened bright blue and beautiful on the North Shore this year...and along with it came the twelfth annual Operation Aloha.

As in years past, the Sailors, civilians, and family members of Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific (NCTAMS PAC), worked alongside Waialua Community Association members to sponsor an eye-popping, belly-busting Thanksgiving meal.

Capt. Laura Marlowe, commanding officer of NCTAMS PAC, began the celebration this year with a warm welcome for the assembled guests. Marlowe then presented a certificate of donation to Pastor Alan Leigh, associate pastor of the North Shore Christian Fellowship. The presentation recognized the dona-

tion of over 800 pounds of non-perishable food items collected by NCTAMS PAC volunteers to the food bank run by Leigh.

Pastor Leigh accepted the donation on behalf of the food bank and the residents of the North Shore. He expressed his gratitude for the food as well as for the Navy's continued presence in the area. Following Pastor Leigh's remarks, Navy Chaplain Cynthia Bye blessed the food with the annual Thanksgiving prayer.

The Thanksgiving meal included the traditional favorites such as oven-roasted turkey and Virginia baked ham. Side dishes included rice, corn bread dressing, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, and of course, savory turkey gravy. Mouth-watering pies to top off the feast were donated to the event by Ted's Bakery and Anna Miller's restaurant. This year volunteers served more than over 450 peo-

ple.

As has been the tradition of years past, the ambience of the meal was decidedly festive thanks to live entertainment.

Information Systems Technician 1st Class (SW) Carey Loftin enthralled the audience with beautifully played Flamenco guitar tunes. The New Hope Christian Fellowship Teens, Litasha and Daesha Johnson, and the Island Christian Fellowship followed Loftin's performance with songs and hula dances.

During the festivities, Santa Claus paid a surprise visit to savor some of the Aloha Spirit. A few lucky kids on the North Shore were able to get their pictures taken with Santa as well as get a head start on letting their Christmas wishes be known.

Operation Aloha has become a successful, perennial North Shore community event.

▼ See ALOHA, A-2

Hale relieves Marquet at Santa Fe change of command ceremony

JO2 Cori Rhea
SUBPAC Public Affairs

Cmdr. Andrew M. Hale relieved Cmdr. L. David Marquet of his duties as commanding officer of the attack submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN 763) during a change of command ceremony Nov. 19 on Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

The guest speaker at the ceremony was Capt. Mark Kenny, Executive Assistant to the Director of Force Structure,

Resources and Assessment for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"Cmdr. Marquet assumed command of USS Santa Fe with a vengeance. He began with a stirring change of command speech, in which he mentioned he will defend the constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic. The crew was put on notice that day that they had a warrior at the helm of Santa Fe," said Kenny.

"The changes onboard were immediately noticeable. There

was a sense of urgency and focus onboard as preparations were made for a deployment. I was able to ride the ship shortly thereafter and could see the definite change in the spirit with a winning team attitude," continued Kenny.

"The crew sensed Cmdr. Marquet's vision and had complete trust and confidence in their new skipper."

The improvements during Marquet's command did not go unnoticed. USS Santa Fe ex-

celled during exercises and missions and won many awards including the Arleigh Burke Trophy, which recognizes the most improved operational command in the Pacific Fleet.

"The past three years for me have been an incredible journey. Although the physical aspects of it, including the 100,000 mile steam and the twelve months we spent on deployment are remarkable enough for me, it is the journey

of the mind, body and spirit that I have made along with these superb young men that is the truly remarkable aspect," said Marquet.

This was the fourth change of command for USS Santa Fe since it's commissioning in 1994. USS Santa Fe is an improved Los Angeles class attack submarine and is 362 feet, displacing 6,900 tons submerged. The submarine can dive deeper than 800 feet and run at speeds in excess of 25 knots.